



CHESTER J. CULVER  
GOVERNOR

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE  
LT. GOVERNOR

May 03, 2010

The Honorable Lawrence Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
United States Department of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Strickling:

Pursuant to your letter received by my office on March 24, 2010 I hereby submit input from the State of Iowa regarding applications to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

I directed the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) to lead the process of reviewing applications that are formulated to serve Iowa. The recommendations contained in the attached document are reflective of a thorough and thoughtful process and it is my hope you will take them into careful consideration when making the final funding decisions.

On April 22, the IUB held a public hearing during which time applicants were provided the opportunity to give an overview of their proposals and to respond to questions from Board Members and staff. A public comment hearing was also held and citizens weighed in on the proposals. The IUB carefully reviewed all materials and comments in order to provide recommendations. I endorse these recommendations and urge their highest consideration by NTIA.

The recommendations are:

### **Comprehensive Critical Infrastructure (CCI) Projects**

- Iowa Healthcare Plus Broadband Extension Project (Recommended)
- Bridging the Digital Divide for Iowa's Communities (Recommended)

### **Public Computing Center (PCC) Projects**

- Iowa Broadband PCC Project – Des Moines Area Community College (Highly Recommended)
- City of Davenport Public Computing Center (Recommended)

### **Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) Project**

- Iowa Digital Empowerment Collaborative (Highly Recommended)
- Central Iowa Hospital Corporation's Rural Iowa Telehealth Initiative (Recommended)

Each of the project applications that were submitted and proposed to serve Iowa had merit, but in order to be responsive to NTIA's request for information we have recommended only a few of the proposals.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester Culver", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chester J. Culver  
Governor of Iowa